MINUTES

OF

NEW ENGLAND YEARLY MEETING

OF

FRIENDS.

1863.

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THIS BOOK PRESENTED BY
Friends'
Historical Society of
Swarthmore College

MINUTES.

At the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, commencing with public meetings for worship at Newport and Portsmouth on First day the 14th, and for discipline at Newport, on Second day morning, the 15th of 6th month, 1863.

By the Reports from the Quarterly Meetings it appears that the following Friends have been appointed Representatives to this Meeting, viz:

From Rhode Island—David Buffum, Timothy C. Collins, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Levi Almy, William Chase, William A. Robinson, and Gilbert Congdon.

From Salem—Stephen A. Chase, Newell Ordway, Edward Gove, John Page, Nathan Breed of Lynn, Micajah C. Pratt, Robert L. Brown, and Thomas W. Thorndike.

From Sandwich—Joseph Wing of Sandwich, James West, Benjamin Anthony, William C. Taber, Rufus Shearman, David K. Akin, Isaac R. Gifford, Thomas Macy, and Adrian Davis.

From Falmouth—Henry M. Minott, Nathan Douglass, Stephen Cartland, Rufus Horton, Abram Winslow, Calvin S. Goddard, Elijah Cook, George Douglass, George P. Day, Levi Meader, and Aaron Varney.

From Smithfield—Richard Battey, Thomas Grover, Anthony Chase, Greeley Dow, Jonathan Farnum, Isaac Steere, and Amos W. Collins.

From Vassalboro'—John D. Lang, Thomas B. Nichols, Jedediah J. Varney, James Van Blarcom, Timothy Hanson, Samuel Foster, Hezekiah Pope, Stephen Jones, Eli Jones, and Caleb Nichols.

From Dover—Tobias Meader, Isaiah Fry, Daniel Meader, and Stillman Estes.

From Fairfield—Samuel Taylor, Daniel Page, Charles F. Coffin, Levi Jones, Charles M. Bailey, Moses Bailey, and Alden Sampson,

whose names being called they were all present, except four, for whose absence sufficient reasons were rendered.

Having at this Meeting the acceptable company of our beloved friends, Thomas Smith of Raisin Monthly Meeting, Michigan; Elwood Ozbun, of Salem Monthly Meeting, Iowa; William H. Chase of Scipio Monthly Meeting, New York; Edward Jenkins, of Salem Monthly Meeting, Ohio; Phebe G. Underhill, of Amawalk Monthly Meeting, New York; Jane Jones, of Honey Creek Monthly Meeting, Indiana; Eliza Brewer, of West Lake Monthly Meeting, Canada West; and Mary Elliot, of Goshen Monthly Meeting, Ohio; satisfactory certificates from their respective Meetings expressing unity with them as Ministers, and with their present religious engagements, were read.

We have also the company of our beloved friends, Asenath H. Nixon, companion to our friend Jane Jones, and Elizabeth Jenkins who accompanies her husband, our friend Edward Jenkins, from whose respective Meetings minutes were read, expressive of unity with them as Elders, and with their present engagements.

Satisfactory minutes expressive of unity with them as members, were also received on account of our friends, Lemuel P. Clark, companion to our friend Thomas Smith; Nathan H. Bond, companion to our friend Elwood Ozbun; Richard Nixon accompanying our friend Jane Jones, and Phebe Griffin companion to our friend Phebe G. Underhill.

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We have received and read at this time, the London printed Epistle for 1862, which is truly satisfactory and instructive, and we think peculiarly adapted to us, in the present condition of things in this land, setting forth very clearly among other duties, the necessity of a strict dependence upon God, for preservation in a day of calamity like this—ever faithfully bearing our testimony, to the unlawfulness of all war, as inconsistent with the commands and teachings of the Prince of Peace; and our friends, Timothy K. Earle and Henry T. Wood, are appointed to attend to the distribution of a reprint of 3,500 copies, (through the representatives now in attendance of this meeting,) that it may be read by our members generally, to whom we commend its instructive counsel; and Friends are encouraged in their freedom to cause it to be publicly read, at the close of a meeting on the first day of the week.

We have received truly acceptable Epistles, from our dear brethren of London Yearly Meeting, (both of 1862 and the present year,) Ireland, New York, Baltimore, Ohio, Indiana and Western, addressed to us, evidently in affectionate remembrance and Christian sympathy—which we tenderly reciprocate; and we appoint the following Friends, to prepare, as way opens for it, and present to a future sitting, essays of Epistles to these Meetings respectively, and also, one to our dear friends of North Carolina, from whom we have received no communication, at this time, on account, as we believe, of the difficulty of transmitting documents from their location to this part of the country, in the existing state of war—and they are also requested to address Iowa Yearly Meeting, soon to assemble for the first time, viz; Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Charles F. Coffin, Samuel Boyce, Samuel Taylor, Moses H. Beede, William C. Taber, James Van Blarcom, Eli Jones, John Page, John Milton Earle, David Buffum, John Barnes, Henry T. Wood, Samuel Austin, George L. Collins, Timothy K. Earle, Thomas B. Nichols, Samuel Gifford, Stephen Cartland, Gilbert Congdon, Charles R. Tucker, Levi Jones, William A. Robinson, Moses Bailey, Joseph Cartland of Providence, Stephen Dillingham, Jedediah J. Varney, Newell Hoxsie, Abner Slade, Jona-

than L. Slocum, Samuel Foster, Lemuel Jones, John Estes, Stephen Jones, and Thomas Grover.

A communication from an individual, addressed to this Meeting, is referred, according to discipline, for examination, to our friends David Buffum, and William C. Taber.

All the Quarterly Meetings report that they have paid, or directed to be paid, to our Treasurer, the amount of stock called for last year, and we appoint our friends, Gideon C. Smith, Micajah C. Pratt, Henry T. Wood, Henry M. Minott, Samuel H. Colton, Ebenezer Frye, Tobias Meader, and Charles M. Bailey, to audit the Treasurer's account, consider of a sum suitable to be raised for the use of this Meeting, the present year, and propose the name of a friend for Treasurer.

By the Reports from the Quarterly Meetings, it appears that *Rhode Island* has united with Rhode Island Monthly Meeting in acknowledging the gift and approving the public appearances in the ministry of Cynthia Bowen, and with Swanzey Monthly Meeting in a similar recognition and approval in the case of Eliza Hull, also with the latter meeting, in the appointment of Sarah Slade to the station of Elder. William S. Perry, an Elder and member of South Kingston Monthly Meeting, died on the 4th of 8th month 1862, aged 63 years 5 months and 3 days. Jonathan Congdon, an Elder and member of Providence Monthly Meeting, died on the 21st of 7th month 1862, aged 98 years 7 months and 5 days.

Salem Quarterly Meeting has united with Weare Monthly Meeting, in the appointment of Joseph Hoag and of Alice B. Hoag to the station of Elder.

Sandwich Quarterly Meeting informs that it has united with Sandwich Monthly Meeting, in the appointment of Nathan Wing and Mary R. Wing to the station of Elder. Maltiah Gifford, a member and Elder of Sandwich Monthly Meeting deceased, 7th month 20th 1862, aged 82 years 1 month and 4 days. Nathan Wing, an Elder and member of the same Monthly Meeting, died 1st month 13th 1863, aged 58 years, 10 months, 16 days.

Falmouth has united with Durham Monthly Meeting, in the appointment of Caleb Estes and George Douglas to the station

of Elder, and with Windham Monthly Meeting, in the appointment of Jane Pope to the same station. Mercy Lowell, a member and Elder of Windham Monthly Meeting, died 13th of 7th month 1862, aged 65 years, 9 months and 23 days.

Smithfield has united with Smithfield Monthly Meeting, in the appointment of Ruth M. Battey to the station of Elder. Buffum Chace, an Elder and member of Smithfield Monthly Meeting, deceased, 9th month 10th, 1862, aged 83 years, 4 months, 11 days.

Vassalboro has united with Vassalboro Monthly Meeting, in the appointment of Rachel B. Nichols and Maria S. Nichols to the station of Elder.

Dover has united with Sandwich Monthly Meeting, in the appointment of Joshua Folsom and Stephen Beede to the station of Elder.

Fairfield has united with Litchfield Monthly Meeting, in appointing Alden Sampson to the station of Elder.

Adjourned to 4 o'clock, this afternoon.

Afternoon, met according to adjournment.

Stephen Jones, on behalf of the Representatives, reported that they had conferred together, and were united in proposing Samuel Boyd Tobey for Clerk, and Charles R. Tucker as Assistant Clerk, which being approved by the Meeting, they are appointed to those stations for the ensuing year.

Having at this Meeting the acceptable company of our friend Rachael Cronkhite, companion to our friend Eliza Brewer, a satisfactory minute from West Lake Monthly Meeting was read, expressing unity with her as a member of that Meeting, and with her present engagement.

The Records of this Meeting, for last year, were laid before us and read.

The Committee to superintend our Boarding School at Providence presented the following report, which is interesting and satisfactory to us; and this Meeting gratefully appreciates the munificent donation of our friend Jacob Metcalf, and fully approves and adopts the minute made by the School Committee

on the reception of his gift, and the Clerk is directed to convey to our friend a copy of the minute and the feeling of this Meeting in relation to his generous act; and the friends now under appointment are continued to co-operate with a similar Committee of the Women's Meeting in superintending the School, the coming year, on our behalf, to report next year.

"To the Yearly Meeting:—

The committee appointed to superintend the Boarding School during the past year, report: that they have attended to their appointment, and have much satisfaction in being able to state that it is in a prosperous condition, and that the administration of its various concerns has been such as to meet their approval.

The number of pupils admitted into the School, for the summer term, was 87, viz., 53 males and 34 females; for the winter term, 166, viz., 98 males and 68 females.

The officers of the Institution have been,—Albert K. Smiley and Eliza P. Smiley, Principals; Alfred H. Smiley, Associate Principal; John F. Rowell, Rebecca H. Smiley and Ruth P. Nichols, Teachers of English branches; Rufus Read, Teacher of Mathematics; Charles R. Paine, Assistant Teacher of Greek and Latin; Alfred Gaudelet, Teacher of French; Mary A. Potter, Teacher of Drawing. In the summer term, Rebecca D. Wing, and in the winter term, Bessie T. Wing were employed on account of the delicate health of Rebecca H. Smiley.

Meetings for worship have been regularly held in the School house on First day mornings, which have been uniformly satisfactory; and the scholars continue to attend meetings of Friends in the city, on First day afternoons and in the middle of the week.

The health of the inmates of the Institution has been generally very good, except that in the early part of the winter term it was interrupted by one or two cases of diphtheria, and several cases of pneumonia, one of which early assumed the typhoid form and proved fatal, in the person of Daniel Heustis Chace, of Bristol, Rhode Island, a young man nearly 21 years of age, son of Daniel and Harriet Chace. This dispensation of Divine Providence was thus noticed in the minutes of the committee:—"The removal by death of one of the pupils, above referred to, introduced us into a renewed and solemn sense of the uncertainty of life, and in this feeling our hearts were exercised in sympathy

for the bereaved relatives, in the humble trust that they mourn not as those without hope, and that our Heavenly Father may be a present help in their severe affliction."

At our meeting in the 9th month, we received the following communication from our friend, Jacob Metcalf:—

"Providence, 9th mo. 10th, 1862.

To the Committee of New England Yearly Meeting Boarding School.

Dear Friends:

My father, Ebenezer Metcalf, having in his will bequeathed to the Yearly Meeting Boarding School, after my decease, under circumstances therein specified, sixty-five shares of the capital stock of the Manufacturers Bank, in Providence, (par value $6,500); one hundred and twenty shares of the Phenix Bank, Providence, (par value $6,000), one hundred shares of the New England Pacific Bank, Pawtucket; (par value $5,000); and one hundred shares of North Providence Bank, (par value, $5,000), for the education of poor children, in that Institution; and being desirous, in my lifetime, to contribute to the object contemplated by my dear father, I have this day authorized the Treasurer of the School fund to receive the dividends from the stocks above enumerated until otherwise ordered by me, to be applied as directed in said will, a copy of which, so far as relates to this bequest, I herewith present, reserving to myself the right of designating any child or children whom I may desire to receive the benefit of a part of said income, they being admitted subject to the Rules and Regulations of the School.

With my best wishes for the prosperity of the Institution,

I am your friend,

JACOB METCALF."

Upon receiving the foregoing communication, the following minute was placed upon our records, viz.:—

"This generous and liberal donation from our friend, Jacob Metcalf, is gratefully received by us, and we trust it will prove a blessing to many of the youth within our Yearly Meeting. We accept it as an evidence, on the part of our friend, of a desire to promote the best interests of those who need a helping hand in obtaining an education to qualify them for usefulness in the world, and desire that the benevolent donor may be blessed in his deed."

During the past year, a neat and convenient Astronomical Observatory has been erected on the School premises, and furnished with a telescope, transit instrument and clock; the expense of these instruments being mostly defrayed by the subscription of a few friends. The object aimed at is to give the scholars generally an opportunity of observing

some of the more common and striking telescopic phenomena of the heavens, and more especially, to provide for those pursuing the study of Astronomy an opportunity of working practical problems by means of well-constructed instruments of moderate power. The more advanced pupils are accustomed to the free use of the instruments, and it is believed that in this way the study of Astronomy will be made more thorough and attractive.

By the report of the committee to examine the accounts of the Institution, it appears that the whole expenses for the past year have been defrayed by receipts from board and tuition, the products of the farm and fifty-two hundred dollars received from the Treasurer of the School fund, and that a balance of one hundred and one dollars remains in his hands. A large expenditure was required in painting the house and erecting the observatory, and further expenditures will soon be necessary for keeping the buildings in good repair. Notwithstanding this, and the greatly enhanced cost of all articles of consumption, we think it will be safe, under the prudent and skilful management of our Principals, to propose that prices for pupils remain the same as last year, viz.: $40 per term for members of our Yearly Meeting; $60 for members of other Yearly Meetings, and where one or both parents are members of our religious Society, or the scholars are sent at the charge and expense of such members; and $100 for any others, payable in all cases in advance, and that $5 additional charge continue to be made for instruction either in the ancient languages, in French or in Drawing, and that books and stationery be furnished as heretofore.

In conclusion, we may state that moral and religious instruction, including, especially, a knowledge of the Holy Scriptures, has, we think, been faithfully attended to, and the pupils generally have given evidence of interest in these important exercises; and we thankfully trust that this Institution continues to be remembered by Him whose blessing alone can sustain us.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the School Committee,

GILBERT CONGDON, Clerk.

Providence, 5th mo. 12th, 1863.

NOTE.—The summer term, 1863, closes the 30th of 9th month.

The winter term, 1863–4, commences on fourth day, the 4th of 11th month, and closes the 23d of 3d month, 1864.

The summer term of 1864 commences fourth day, the 4th of 5th month.

REGULATIONS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

As the number that can be admitted into the School is limited, it is necessary that the committee should be seasonably informed of all in this Yearly Meeting that desire to occupy places in the School, in order that they may determine how many others, if any, may be received. Application should therefore be made for members of our Yearly Meeting in season to be laid before the committee at their meetings held in the *third* and *ninth* months. At these meetings, applications for members of our Yearly Meeting will have precedence of all others, after which they will be considered in the order in which they are received.

Applications for the benefit of the "charitable fund," or of "the Jacob Metcalf donation," will also be determined at the times above specified, and in all these cases information is desired of the age, moral habits and literary acquirements of the applicants, to aid the committee in deciding upon them.

It is expected, and earnestly desired, that *all* the scholars shall be at the School punctually, at the commencement of the term, for the prompt organization of classes; but if circumstances occur to prevent such attendance, notice is to be forwarded to the Principals, within one week of that time, stating whether or not their places are desired to be reserved for them. A failure to attend the School, or to give the notice above specified, will be considered a relinquishment of the privilege, unless again admitted by the committee; and in all cases of pupils being admitted for the term and attending the School, it is expected that payment will be made for the term.

Friends of pupils and all others visiting the School will be expected to defray the expense arising therefrom to the Institution.

All applications for admission are to be made to the Principals.

Address, ALBERT K. SMILEY,
Principal Friends Boarding School,
Providence, R. I.

[*Committee.*—Samuel Boyd Tobey, Gilbert Congdon, William C. Taber, Samuel Taylor, Samuel Boyce, Gideon C. Smith, George Howland, Jr., Samuel Austin, Charles R. Tucker, David Buffum, Stephen A. Chase, William A. Robinson and John D. Lang.

Susan Howland, Lydia Congdon, Sarah F. Tobey, Ann Elmira Lang. Eliza B. Boyce, Mary A. Smith, Lydia H. Jones, Dorcas F. Tucker, Rachel S. Howland, Sarah T. Sampson, Ann B. Earle and Anna T. Dennis.]

The Committee appointed this morning reported favorably to reading the communication addressed to this Meeting by an individual, and it was accordingly read. It proved to be an address from our beloved friend William Green, of Ireland, who was so acceptably with us at our last Yearly Meeting. The spirit of love which it breathes, the evident concern manifested for the prosperity of truth and for the healing of breaches, and the sound counsel it contains, were feelingly responded to in this Meeting, and the message were gratefully received and directed to be placed on our Records and transmitted to our members. The Clerk is directed to acknowledge its receipt to our friend William Green, with the expression of our continued love and unity.

"To Friends of the Yearly Meetings of Philadelphia and New England:—

Dear Friends:

Having believed it required of me to visit you, in the love of the Everlasting Gospel, (first the Meeting of Philadelphia, and now that of New England,) and having attended, with a few exceptions, all the Meetings of Friends in both places, and feeling nearly united to my dear Friends in the limits of both Meetings, I feel constrained in that same love, to address you at this time, although in a feeble way; believing there are up and down amongst you those who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity, and who are sincerely desiring the prosperity of Zion and the enlargement of her borders. To such as these, I desire to say God speed; that their hands may be more and more strengthened to war, and their fingers to fight. But, how essentially necessary it is, that these should be united as members of the one fold, endeavouring to strengthen one another's hands in the Lord's work and service, as it was in days that are over and gone. I believe one great obstacle which stands in the way of a true fellowship (in some within your borders) is a watching for one another's failings, and not a willingness to see their own, and to have Charity for each other; rather disposed to say, stand by thyself I am Holier than thou. But my dear friends, if we are enabled to see ourselves as we are seen in the Divine sight, would it not humble us and cause us to look more favorably on others? Love would be the covering of our spirits. By this, said our Blessed Redeemer, shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one towards another.

It has appeared to me, my dear friends, that a party spirit has made great ravages in your borders, one as it were, saying I am of Paul, and another, I am of Apollos, or in other words, setting up tabernacles for Moses and Elias; but this will not do if ever we expect to be the people that the Lord designed that we should be; it must be by hearing and obeying the only begotten Son of God and none else. It is He, and He only, that can raise us up a living people as in days of old, or as in former years. I do believe it is His design concerning us as a people, that we should yet shine in our ancient beauty; and oh! saith my spirit, that the day may hasten on apace, when the poor, stripped Church may come forth out of her wilderness state, leaning on the arm of Christ Jesus, the beloved of souls, clear as the sun, fair as the moon, and terrible to every thing that would oppose her shining, as an army with banners,—not in the strength nor power of man, nor in the wisdom of man, but by and through the Lord's Eternal Spirit; for it is not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts. And now, my dear friends, in true and unfeigned love, I bid you farewell, desiring that Grace, Mercy, and Peace, from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, may more and more abound amongst you.

From your poor, unworthy brother,

WILLIAM GREEN.

This 4th day of 9th month, 1862."

Our friends Samuel Gifford, Moses F. Rogers, Jabez Wood, Calvin S. Goddard, Richard Battey, Thomas B. Nichols, Stilman Estes, and Moses Bailey, are appointed to prepare a summary of the answers and present at our next sitting.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Third day morning, the 16th, the Meeting assembled pursuant to adjournment, Representatives present except three.

After a season of solemn waiting and being favored, as we reverently trust, to witness a measure of the Divine presence, the Meeting entered upon a consideration of the state of Society, by reading the Queries and Answers; and having attended to the 1st and 2nd, adjourned to 4 o'clock, P. M.

In the afternoon we again assembled, and concluded the review of our state as revealed by the remaining Answers to the Queries.

During the whole of this interesting engagement, a covering of good was felt to be over the Meeting, and much lively and pertinent counsel and admonition were extended to us, by concerned and qualified brethren. We were brought renewedly to feel that the paramount business of *time*, is to prepare for *eternity*. We all know that we are to appear before the judgment seat of Christ. We know that we are individually responsible unto God. We know that He is omnipotent. We acknowledge our dependence upon Him, and that it is His prerogative to bless or to wither us as it pleaseth Him. We trust there is not one among us that calls in question these vital truths. Yet, with all this confession upon our lips, how is it exemplified in our lives? How do we manifest our sense of dependence—our filial love—our practical faith, when we neglect to perform the reasonable service of assembling to worship Him? Even on the day when secular concerns are suspended, by common consent, how lamentable is the thought, that so many of our members fail to attend meetings for divine worship, and still a greater number, when some sacrifice may be necessary, to attend those established for this holy purpose, in the middle of the week. This Meeting is deeply exercised on this account, and earnestly desires, in its concern for the salvation of souls, to arouse Friends to a sense of their duty, while yet opportunity is granted to discharge it. "Awake thou that sleepest, arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light." Live no longer in a state of careless indifference. Reflect on the uncertainty of the continuance of thy pilgrimage on earth, and endeavor to realize how it will be with thee, when the Son of man cometh. Count all things but dross that thou mayest win Him. Yield to the blessed and constraining love of the Holy Spirit, and thou wilt see in Christ a perfect Savior and Redeemer, and will come experimentally to *know* Him, and to rejoice in Him with joy unspeakable. "Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together," is an injunction of the Apostle; and as worship is an *individual* duty, none should be discouraged, or can feel excused by the fewness in numbers of those that assemble. The blessed Jesus will be with them that meet in His name, and, although there may be none vocally to minister the word, He, himself, will enable you acceptably to "worship Him that made Heaven and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters." As you love your children, take them with you, for you know not at how tender an age, the Day Spring from on high may visit them.

One of the direct commands of Christ is, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Can any one fail to guard against detraction, if his spirit

is right towards God? Can he speak evil of another if his heart is filled with love? Whilst he bears his testimony against all that is evil, will he not be engaged to seek to restore the wanderer—to point out to him the safe path—to show him the way of salvation, and to win him to Christ? Beloved friends, we are persuaded that this will be the course of all who really love Christ and strive to keep his commandments. To detract from the merits of a brother, to depreciate him in the view of his fellow men, is evidence that evil is existing in our own hearts—that we have not witnessed true and abiding conversion—that we are not walking in the regeneration, but still are indulging in the works of the fallen man that must be slain. "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one unto another." "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment, and the second is like unto it, thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

It is evident from the answer to the third query, that there is not that fullness of attention in all Friends' families, to the reading of the Holy Scriptures in a collective capacity, which has so often been recommended by this Yearly Meeting; and very tender and forcible have been the exhortations we have received, that the Bible—that unspeakble boon from Heaven, which maketh wise unto salvation, through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ—may receive our daily, reverential attention, in our families. Religious family opportunities are often blessed seasons, and we earnestly desire that friends may seek for the strength thus to be obtained, and not shrink from bowing the knee, or performing any other religious service in their families, which our Heavenly Father may require. "Ask, and ye shall receive; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you."

In the present calamitous state of our beloved country, when the sword is drawn, when brother is engaged in destroying brother, and the cry of woe and desolation is heard in the land, deep is our travail, earnest our concern, that all of us, both younger and older, may be preserved from all manner of strife, and be strengthened, faithfully to maintain the peaceable principles which we have ever professed. No carnal weapon can be wielded by us if we are really guided by the Prince of Peace—by Him who commands us to love our enemies, to do good to them that hate us, and to pray for them that despitefully use us, whose kingdom is not of this world, and who taught his disciples to pray unto the Father "thy kingdom come." Now is the time when our faith is practically tried; now is our season of proving, and we

earnestly entreat Friends to manifest that their trust is not in man, nor in the strength of man, but in the Lord Almighty; and that we are willing patiently to endure suffering, if that be our lot, for Christ's sake. Who can say how great may be our influence for good, by this exemplification of the principles of peace, at an hour like the present.

While the deeply interesting subjects of the seventh query were under consideration, thankfulness was expressed to the Father of mercies, for the preservation that has been thus far extended to us, and deep and tender was the sympathy manifested for those now in trouble, in consequence of loved ones in their families having entered the army; and fervent are the prayers of the Church for all these.

Under a grateful sense of mercy extended to us, in love, the Meeting now adjourns to 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

The following is a summary of the answers received, viz:

SUMMARY.

Answer 1. Our meetings for worship and discipline have been attended, except thirty-one omissions, occurring in small meetings. Those on First days have generally been attended by most of our members. Meetings for discipline not so fully attended. Other mid-week meetings continue to be neglected by many. The hour is nearly observed by most Friends. Unbecoming behavior mostly guarded against, a few instances of sleeping excepted. Four accounts state that care has been extended.

2d. Love and unity appear to be in a good degree maintained amongst us; detraction is generally guarded against, with some exception, in three of the accounts. When differences have arisen, endeavors have been used to end them. Some care mentioned in two of the answers.

3d. Most of our members we think are concerned to bring up those under their care in plainness; also, to restrain them from pernicious reading and from corrupt conversation, and are, in good degree, exemplary herein themselves; while others appear less watchful in these respects. The Holy Scriptures are, we believe, read in all Friends' families, and frequently in most of them.

4th. Spirituous liquors appear to be confined to medicinal purposes, except in six instances, and two accounts give indefinite exceptions; and friends are generally careful to avoid frequenting of taverns and

places of public resort, with some exception from one Quarterly Meeting; and to observe moderation and temperance on the occasions referred to. Some care taken.

5th. The necessities of the poor have been relieved, and the education of their children attended to. With a few exceptions in one account, children are placed among friends.

6th. Careful in these respects, except a few instances of keeping company with those not in membership with us on account of marriage. Five cases of marrying out are reported, one of which is under notice.

7th. Our testimony to the freeness of the Gospel ministry has, we believe, been maintained with a few exceptions, three of which are under notice. Forty-three enlistments in the military service of the United States are definitely reported; in twenty of which cases, disownment has taken place, and seven more are reported as under notice. One account states a *few instances* of enlistment. Three make some exceptions in regard to *other* military matters. Clear in the other parts of this query. Two accounts state some care taken.

8th. With a few exceptions, Friends are careful to inspect their affairs and settle their accounts, punctual to their promises, just in the payment of their debts, and endeavor to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

9th. Careful as to records. A number of removals without certificates, most of which are under notice.

10th. Care has been taken to deal with offenders, we trust, in good measure as queried after, though not so seasonably, in some cases, as would be best. Judgment has, we believe, been placed according to discipline.

Fourth day morning, the 17th, the Meeting assembled according to adjournment. The Representatives present except five.

The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings for the past year, were laid before us and read; and the proceedings of that Meeting in relation to the important subjects that have claimed their attention, are satisfactory to us—as manifested by a very full and feeling expression on the part of the Meeting, including many of our beloved young men; and the friends now under appointment are continued to compose a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year, to attend, on our behalf, to such subjects

as may properly claim their attention, and lay their proceedings before this Meeting, next year.

Members of Meeting for Sufferings:—

David Buffum, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Samuel Taylor, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Taber, of Albion, Timothy C. Collins, Thomas Harkness, Stephen Jones, David K. Akin, Stephen A. Chase, William Farr, William C. Taber, Tobias Meader, Micajah C. Pratt, Thomas Jones, George Howland, Jr., Alden Sampson, William A. Robinson, Stephen Beede, Gilbert Congdon, Richard Battey, Ebenezer Frye, Henry M. Minott, Elisha Jones, of Windham, John Page, Charles R. Tucker, Lemuel Gifford, Nathan Breed, of Lynn, Joseph Taylor, George Bowen, Newell Hoxie, David Kelly, Moses Huntington, Jr., and Edward Earle.

The Committee under appointment to extend, on our behalf, advice and assistance to Meetings or individuals, as occasion may require and way open for, presented the following Report, viz:

"To the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee continued under appointment last year, to labor in that ability which might be afforded them to promote love and unity wherever they are interrupted within our limits, report that they have given attention to their appointment and so far as way has opened for it, have extended advice both to Meetings and individuals which they believe has not been without some benefit. They regret, however, that there is still evidence of a want, on the part of a few individuals in different meetings, of that unity which is essential to their own welfare and the right order of the Church, and it is their judgment that care should still be extended by this meeting through a Committee.

ISAAC R. GIFFORD,
JOHN D. LANG,
SAMUEL BOYCE,
NEWELL HOXIE,
SAMUEL BOYD TOBEY,
CHARLES R. TUCKER,
GILBERT CONGDON,
JOHN PAIGE.

Newport, 6th month 16th, 1863."

And after solid consideration, and under a deep concern for the healing of breaches where any may exist in the Church, the same friends are continued under appointment to labor, on behalf of this Meeting, in the ability which may be mercifully afforded, to restore love and unity where they may not fully exist, to preserve the right order of the Church and report to this Meeting next year.

Committee.—Samuel Boyd Tobey, Gilbert Congdon, Stephen A. Chase, Samuel Boyce, Isaac R. Gifford, John D. Lang, Newell Hoxie, John Paige, and Charles R. Tucker.

Adjourned to 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Afternoon. Friends again assembled.

The Committee on Education presented the subjoined Report, which is interesting and encouraging to us.

"To the Yearly Meeting:—

The committee on Education, in presenting their report, are aware that in New England the subject of education is claiming a large share of public attention, and that the members of this Yearly Meeting are not only deeply interested in the Boarding School at Providence and the Oak Grove Seminary at Vassalboro, which the committee believe were never in a more flourishing condition, but that many of them are associated with their fellow citizens, in the different localities where they reside, in the supervision and welfare of our public schools. We do not propose, therefore, to enter upon the consideration of this subject in all its various features of interest, but to offer, in connection with the usual statistical information, a few suggestions, touching the importance of awakening a still deeper interest in the *religious instruction* of our members; for we feel that, in this respect, we have sustained a great loss.

We have obtained, in answer to circulars addressed to the different Monthly Meetings, and otherwise, the following information. No response was received from two Monthly Meetings.

The number of children in the Yearly Meeting between the ages of 5 and 15 years, is - - -	586
The number between 15 and 21, is - - -	471

The number of Monthly Meeting Schools, - -	2	
The " of Preparative Meeting Schools, -	1	
The " of Family Schools, - - -	8	
Whole number attending school, - - - -	895	
" " taught by Friends, - - -	388	
" " engaged in teaching, - - -	135	
Number of members obtaining an education at Academies or Colleges not under the care of Friends, -	33	
Number of First Day Schools, - - -	50	
Average time of these schools, - - - -	8	months.
Whole number attending First Day Schools, -	1,423	
Number of Friends' children, - - - -	472	
" of teachers, - - - - -	193	
" of Bible Classes, - - - - -	32	
" attending Bible Classes, - - -	604	
" of Friends attending, - - - -	521	

It will be seen, that during the past year, the number of First Day Schools has been increased by 17, (or more than one-half;) and that to the number of persons receiving instruction in these schools, 581 have been added. Also, that the number of additional Bible Classes is 25 and that the additional members of Bible Classes are 471. This, the committee consider most gratifying intelligence, for it not only shows an increasing interest in the establishment of schools for the scriptural instruction of the youth, but evinces, on the part of our older Friends, a desire to strengthen and encourage these by their presence, and thus are all mutually benefited. And the advantages of such schools are not confined to our own members, for, it will be perceived, that only about one-third part of the whole number are members of our religious Society.

In this way, there is an opportunity presented for extending our usefulness, in promoting the cause of truth and righteousness in the earth, which should be the chief object in all our educational efforts. And while we rejoice at the indications of interest manifested in the "Boarding School" and other institutions of learning, for promoting a thorough practical education, and the new zeal exhibited in opening schools for the study of the sacred scriptures, which have done so much to elevate and bless man, we would remind Friends, and especially our younger members who occupy the interesting and responsible position of parents, not to forget, that the *family circle* is, after all, the most impor-

tant school in which our children are placed; for it is here that the character of the man, for good or for evil, is generally formed. Hence the importance of determining what that home influence shall be, bearing in mind that it is operating hourly upon hearts of immortal beings, during the period when those hearts are most susceptible of influence. Let no want of sympathy with children, or coldness and restraint exist, to make home less attractive than the places and company which lead the soul astray from virtue. But let the charm and the freedom of love pervade the home of every child, and then shall home influences be always lovely to him, and always sacred.

By the direction of the Committee.

JOHN H. CROSMAN, Clerk."

The Committee under appointment, with the substitution of Joseph S. Hawkes in the place of Joseph Winslow, removed from St. Alban's Monthly Meeting, is continued to attend to this important and very interesting concern, and we desire to strengthen their hands in the work.

This Meeting again revives the suggestion contained in the report of the Committee last year, viz:

"We would further suggest, that it would materially aid the Committee appointed by the Yearly Meeting on the interesting subject, if Monthly Meetings were to appoint Committees to collect statistics to encourage the organization of First Day Schools in all our Meetings, and to act in other respects in conjunction with the Yearly Meeting's Committee. And that the members of these several Committees, together with the members of the Yearly Meeting's Committee, resident within each Quarterly Meeting, meet at the time of holding the Quarterly Meeting preceding the Yearly Meeting, to prepare a report to be presented to the Committee on Education when they meet at Newport."

And this Meeting earnestly requests our several Monthly Meetings to attend to this suggestion, and to render all desired aid to our Committee, to enable them to present full and correct statistical information to us from year to year.

[*Committee.*—Joseph E. Macomber, Solomon R. Knowles, Samuel Austin, Abel F. Collins, Samuel Gifford, Nathan Breed of Weare, John H. Crossman, Robert L. Brown, Edward W. Ewer, Nathan T. Shep-

herd, Matthew Barney, Isaac R. Potter, Adrian Davis, Charles Taber, Isaac Steere, Nathan Babcock, Timothy K. Earle, George Douglas, Henry M. Minott, Nathan Pope, Silas H. Cartland, Thomas B. Nichols, Eli Jones, Jedediah J. Varney, Amos D. Purinton, Albert C. Buffum, George Varney, George Richardson, Levi Jones, and Joseph S. Hawkes.

Women's Committee.—Cynthia Bowen, Gulielma Freeborn, Elizabeth A. Congdon, Mary D. Collins, Mary Slade, Lydia P. Chase, Elizabeth Page, Mary T. Gove, Elizabeth C. Wing, Ruth A. Shepherd, Lydia Swain, Huldah B. Gifford, Rebecca A. Church, Susan Taber, Abigail S. Hodges, Lydia B. Dow, Abigail Wheeler, Jane C. Minott, Salome J. Goddard, Lydia M. Pope, Anna H. Cartland, Rachel B. Nichols, Sybil Jones, Jane H. Varney, Phebe H. Meader Eliza P. Varney, Sarah Hoag, Hannah R. Wing, Lavina M. Briggs and Deborah W. Hawkes.]

The Committee on the ancient and early concern of this Meeting for the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy tribes of Indians made the following report, which, as in former years, is interesting and satisfactory to us,—and our Committee is continued under appointment and requested to attend to our concern as way opens for it; this Meeting being desirous that these people should feel that we are interested in them and disposed to do them good, as was conspicuously the case with our forefathers, in relation to the aborigines of our country in its early settlement by white people.

"To the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee appointed to have charge of the concern of the Meeting for the improvement of the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Indians, report:

That those of the Penobscot tribe are getting along much the same as in former years, making some improvement in agriculture, and becoming, though very gradually, more interested in that subject, and also in the education of their children.

The Committee have not drawn on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the sum appropriated last year for the benefit of this tribe, but would recommend that the amount remain subject to the order of the Committee.

Two of our members were enabled to make a visit to the Passamaquoddy tribe in the eighth month, last year. Although many of their number were at the time absent from their homes, it proved an interesting visit to the Committee and highly gratifying to the Indians. At Pleasant Point, some eight miles from Eastport, is a small settlement of from twenty-five to thirty houses, which in appearance would compare favorably with many New England villages, the houses having a clean and tidy appearance and looking comfortable.

A school was in session here on the afternoon of our visit, and about thirty scholars were present, but we were told by the teacher that this was more than their usual attendance; that although over forty had been present at one time, the average was only about fifteen, the attendance being very irregular. Their improvement however, under the circumstances, had been good. About fifty miles farther up the river is another portion of this tribe which we visited. Here also was a school at the time of our visit. We did not see it in session but were informed that the attendance was small. Their houses though generally small looked comfortable. They have a good school house at each of these villages."

On behalf of the Committee,

STEPHEN JONES.

Newport, 6th month 17th, 1863.

[*Committee.*—John D. Lang, Stephen Jones, Joseph Taber, Nathan Douglas, Allen Wing, Caleb Nichols, Samuel Taylor, Eli Jones, Alfred H. Jones, Henry T Wood, James Van Blarcom, George Richardson and Joseph Estes.]

The Committee to settle the Treasurer's account, and for other purposes, made the following report, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting:—

The committee appointed to settle the Treasurer's account, and for other purposes, report they have attended to their appointment, and find a balance due the Treasurer, of two thousand five hundred sixty-nine $\frac{21}{100}$ dollars ($2,569.21). They are united in proposing the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars, ($2500) to be raised for the use of the meeting; and David Buffum for Treasurer.

GIDEON C. SMITH,

For the Committee.

Newport, 6th mo. 16, 1863."

Which is approved, and our several Quarterly Meetings are requested to raise their respective quotas of $2,500, and forward the same to our friend David Buffum, whom we appoint our Treasurer for the ensuing year.

The following proposition, from Salem Quarterly Meeting, claimed the serious consideration of this Meeting, and we were united in referring it to the attention of the Meeting next year, viz.

"The subject of proposing to the Yearly Meeting a revision of our Discipline has at this time claimed our attention; and it is concluded to bring the same before our next Yearly Meeting for its consideration."

The Committee to attend to the distribution of a reprint of 3,500 copies of the London General Epistle, report that the service has been performed.

Adjourned to 4 o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

Fifth day afternoon, the 18th, met according to adjournment. The Representatives present except five.

Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting proposes the appointment of Peter H. Collins, as correspondent of South Kingstown Monthly Meeting in place of William S. Perry, deceased; address Hopkinton, R. I.;—and Sandwich proposes the appointment of Joseph Wing correspondent of Sandwich Monthly Meeting, in place of Maltiah Gifford, deceased; address Sandwich, Mass.—with which this Meeting unites.

In the Epistle from New York, we are informed that Joseph Gibbons has been appointed correspondent of Adrian Monthly Meeting, in place of Samuel Satterthwaite, deceased; address Adrian Michigan. Edward B. Cronk, correspondent of West Lake Monthly Meeting, in place of Archelaus Southard, released; address Bloomfield, Prince Edward's County, Canada West.

The Clerk is directed to sign on our behalf, the following minute for our friend Thomas Smith, and similar ones for our friends Elwood Ozbun, William H. Chase, Edward Jenkins,

Phebe G. Underhill, Jane Jones, Eliza Brewer and Mary Elliot, viz.

"Our beloved friend Thomas Smith attended this meeting. His company and religious services have been acceptable to us."

The Clerk is also directed to sign, on our behalf, the following minute for our friend Lemuel P. Clark, and similar ones for our friends Nathan H. Bond, Richard Nixon, Asenath H. Nixon, Elizabeth Jenkins, Phebe Griffin, and Rachel Cronkhite, viz.

"Our beloved friend, Lemuel P. Clark, attended this meeting. His company and solid deportment have been acceptable and satisfactory to us."

The Committee on the Correspondence presented essays of Epistles to our dear brethren of the Yearly Meetings of London, Ireland, New York, Baltimore, North Carolina, Ohio, Indiana, Western and Iowa, which the clerk is directed to sign on our behalf and forward to those Meetings respectively.

The clerk is requested to cause 3000 copies of the Minutes of this Meeting of the present year to be printed and furnished to the families of friends.

The interesting and important engagements of this Meeting are now satisfactorily concluded. Many of us came up hither deeply bowed in spirit. We realized the trials through which the church is now passing amid the commotions and conflicts that surround us. And now in parting with each other, in much tenderness and love, we gratefully confess that we have been strengthened by the sure evidence we have received that the Lord has not forsaken us—that his ear is open to the prayers of those who, through the blessed Intercessor, come unto Him for help—and that preservation will continue to be extended to all who put their trust in Him. We now adjourn to meet on this Island, at the usual time, next year, if the Lord permit.

SAMUEL BOYD TOBEY, *Clerk.*

S.I QAR. RM.

BX7607
N4A2 Society of Friends. New England Yearly Meeting.
Minutes of New England Yearly Meeting of Friends. -- S.l. : The Meeting, v. ; 23 cm.
Annual.
Other title: Minutes of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England <1893> - ; Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England.
Description based on: 1863; title from cover.
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SOCIETY OF FRIENDS--NEW ENGLAND--
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QUAKERS--NEW ENGLAND--CONGRESSES.

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